

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET

25X1

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Plants and Factories under the Second Main Administration, Ministry of Chemical Industry	DATE DISTR.	25X7 April 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	4
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	25X1
		REFERENCES	[REDACTED]

25X1

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. Following is a list of plants and factories which [REDACTED] were subordinate to the Second Main Administration of the Ministry of Chemical Industry. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

2. Povazske Chemical Works

25X1

The Povazske Chemical Works was an old plant situated near a railroad station in Zilina. [REDACTED]

25X1

[REDACTED] Among its principal products were plastics, sulphuric acid, nitric acid, hydrochloric acid, carbon disulphide, polyvinyl chloride, urea, and lactam. Production of lactam, only about 100 kg. in 1950, was full scale as of the summer of 1952. [REDACTED] Many of the products of this factory were supplied to the western part of Slovakia. Construction of new buildings had begun and was to be increased in the future; the first phase of this construction was scheduled to be completed by the end of 1953, and all existing plans to be realized during the second five-year plan. The buildings nearest the railroad station were slowly being abandoned and construction begun away from the station. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

[REDACTED] It will [REDACTED] become the largest center in Czechoslovakia for the production of plastic mass. Other products presently produced there will continue to be produced [REDACTED]

124

SECRET

25X1

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AEC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
-------	-------------------------------------	------	-------------------------------------	------	-------------------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

SECRET

25X1

-2-

25X1 Plastics production was quite low as of Summer 1952, but was gradually to expand. This was in line with the emphasis being placed on the production of plastics in Czechoslovakia. The 300-500 people employed here were probably working only two shifts but more will probably be hired as new units of production go into use. [redacted] power was supplied by a nearby power station which also supplied other plants in the vicinity [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] Two railroad spur tracks led into the factory and, although no new railroad construction was in evidence in April 1952, [redacted] additional track facilities will be laid to service the new building construction. [redacted] there had been considerable reshuffling of people at the top level recently [redacted]

25X1 The former manager, Ing. (fmu) SIRA, an able chemist, was dismissed, and [redacted] placed in some minor position in the plant.

Spolana Chemical Works

3. This plant was located in Neratovice 5016N-1431E, a small town about 25 km. north of Prague. It was situated at the north end of the town and extended to the western bank of the Elbe River. Founded by the Germans in 1942 and completed at the end of World War II, this plant was regarded as one of the most modern Czech chemical plants. In the Summer of 1952 there were still some buildings under construction; of these, the only ones [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] are a second department for rayons, a sulphuric acid department, and an activated carbon department. Facing toward Neratovice was the main entrance to the plant, and about 200 m. from the main entrance was the department for rayons. The department for rayons was located in a building 200-400 m. long where the processing was conducted in four rows of the same type of machinery. The administration building was adjacent to the rayon department. Opposite the rayon department was the electrolytic department. The saccharine and glue departments were situated near the Elbe River, and most of the new buildings were being constructed near the river. See Annex 25X1

All dimensions and distances [redacted] are approximate. The main products of the plant were woolen and cotton rayons, saccharine, bone glue, hydrochloric acid, sodium hydroxide, and insecticides. Adequate railroad facilities existed [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] there were or whether additional tracks were to be laid.

25X1 Approximately 2,000 or 3,000 workers were employed by the plant, and [redacted] all of them were Czechs and most of them were men.

[redacted] there was no plant manager, the former one, an engineer, Dr Ing. (fmu) SVAB, having been assigned the post of Second Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Chemical Industry.

Czech Rayon Mills (Ceske Hlevab)

4. Located on the outskirts of the town of Lovosice 5031N-1404E along the main road between Prague and Usti nad Labem 5040N-1402E, the Czech Rayon Mills was an old plant with a small affiliated factory in Teresiental, a small town located in the mountains near the northern border, about 15-20 km. from Trutnov 5034N-1554E. A new and modern plant was being constructed near the plant in Lovosice and was expected to be completed in the first part of 1953. The only product of this plant was artificial silk. The quality of goods produced was very poor and was attributable to old machinery and the lack of spare parts needed for repair. Most of the artificial silk produced was of the third grade, the worst, while the artificial silk of the first grade, the best and the most needed, was put out in small quantities.

25X1 [redacted] Most of the approximately 1,500 workers employed here were women. [redacted] there has been a succession of plant managers in the past year or so [redacted]

SECRET

SECRET

-3-

Soda Plant (Tovarny na Sodu)

5. This plant, located at Nestemice, a town about six kilometers north of Usti nad Labem, was an old plant which formerly belonged to the Solway Trust of Belgium. With the exception of some reconstruction work, there were no new additions to this plant after the war. [redacted] there was a shortage in Czech industry for the products of this plant.

25X1 Crystallic soda and sodium and potassium dichromates were the main products of this plant. A spur track led into the plant premises but [redacted] no additional information on this subject.

25X1 [redacted] the number of workers at 500-700. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]

Peace Plant (Zavod Miru)

6. Located in the outskirts of Bratislava near the Juraje Dimitrov Plant [redacted] the Peace Plant was new, constructed in 1949-1950. It was first built as part of the Juraje Dimitrov Plant but when completed was made into an independent enterprise. [redacted] most of its machinery was imported from the US. The principal product was rayons. [redacted] the plant probably used the power facilities of the Dimitrov Plant.

25X1 [redacted]

Silon Plant

7. The Silon Plant, located at Sezimovo Usti [4923N-1442E] along the main road between Tabor [4925N-1440E] and Sobeslav [4916N-1443E], was a small modern plant constructed just before World War II. Formerly a Bata factory for the manufacture of stockings, this plant in 1950-1951 was converted to the production of plastics. Its main product was silon, which is similar to the American nylon. Although production was still rather limited, it will probably be increased because of the emphasis being placed on developing the plastics industry.

25X1 [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] Most of the workers were women [redacted] 25X1 manager was Ing. (fnu) MORAVEC, who developed the silon process and 25X1 was probably the greatest plastics expert in Czechoslovakia [redacted]

SECRET

ANNEX

SECRET

25X1

Labe River

Glue

Saccharine

Storage

Planned expansion

Electrolysis
(2 or 3 stories)

Entrance

Neratovice

Rayons
(2 stories) Adminis-
 tration
 (3 stories) Rayons
 (1 story)

Maintenance

Planned expansion

Neratovice II Station

the
Spolana Chemical Works

SECRET